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Chairman: Mr. MUTHAURA (Kenya)

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AGENDA ITEM 84: UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 84: UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST (A/50/13/Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.1/Corr.2 (Arabic only), A/50/82-S/1995/135, A/50/159-S/1995/312, A/50/168-S/1995/341, A/50/428, A/50/450, A/50/451, A/50/491, A/50/500 and A/50/531)

1. Mr. TÜRKMEN (Commissioner-General, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)), presenting his annual report on the work of the Agency (A/50/13) covering the period from July 1994 to June 1995, he said the search for peace in the Middle East had reached a milestone with the signing in September 1995 by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) of the interim agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. However, while the search for a lasting solution continued, it was important not to forget the plight of over 3 million Palestine refugees. He paid a special tribute to the many Palestinians among the UNRWA staff for their exceptional dedication and valiant efforts in extremely trying circumstances. UNRWA was operating in a difficult transitional period where great hope was mingled with uncertainty and concern.

2. As the Palestinian Authority had taken greater responsibility for health, education and social services, it had become the Agency's exclusive interlocutor in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The spirit of cooperation and mutual support between the Palestinian Authority and UNRWA was very gratifying, but the support of the Israeli authorities, who controlled the area, was also needed. Despite the Agency's continuing good relations with the Israeli Government, its operations had never been so hampered as they were now. It was worth recalling the extent of those operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip: UNRWA operated schools, health centres, training centres and a hospital, and supported youth centres and centres for women's programmes and community rehabilitation, as well as providing emergency assistance to the most needy refugees. The vast majority of its staff were locally recruited Palestinians. Since the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements had been signed in 1993, the combined presence of UNRWA and other United Nations agencies had expanded considerably, and UNRWA's expenditure in the West Bank and Gaza Strip accounted for almost half of the Palestinian Authority's projected annual expenditure. The European Union was also a major donor. UNRWA attached great importance to cooperation with other United Nations agencies and the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories to support the peace process. The Special Coordinator's presence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip had added a crucial dimension to the Organization's efforts in the region. UNRWA was also active in the multilateral approach to the peace process, attending meetings of the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees and those of the Local Aid Coordinating Committee, providing the secretariat for the latter's working group on the environment.

3. In the light of the deep concerns of the Palestine refugee community and Agency staff about the future of UNRWA, the meeting in Amman earlier in the year of the Agency's major donors, host Governments and Advisory Commission members had been pivotal. There had been agreement that it would be premature to place a time-limit on the existence of UNRWA as the Agency would continue to be of

vital importance until a political solution to the refugee problem was found, and support had been expressed for the Agency's Peace Implementation Programme and its focus on the harmonization of services. The Agency's financial requirements for the coming years had been clarified and, although uncertainties remained, a consensus had emerged on the nature of its mission in the medium term.

4. International support for the peace process had resulted in heightened interest by donors in funding the Agency's projects. That interest was opportune, as the Agency's planned expenditure on projects in 1995 was more than 10 times its actual expenditure in 1991. There had been an excellent response from donors to the Peace Implementation Programme, which aimed at showing the refugee community the tangible benefits of the peace process, through investment in infrastructure, income-generation and job creation. There had been massive investment in the construction, repair, maintenance and provision of schools, health centres, shelters, centres for women's programmes and community rehabilitation, garbage depository sites and refuse containers. One of the Agency's most ambitious undertakings was the construction of the European Gaza Hospital, which would be the second largest in Gaza. After delays resulting from closures of the Gaza Strip, it was now due for completion in mid-1996. Its future was the subject of discussions with the Palestinian Authority, which would eventually inherit the hospital, and the European Union.

5. UNRWA attached increasing importance to income-generation activities with the aim of creating jobs and establishing sustainable income-producing activity within the refugee community. One of its most successful efforts had been the revolving loan fund for small-scale enterprises, which provided credit on a non-profit basis to Palestinian entrepreneurs; by 1997 the fund would be self-sustaining. Another revolving loan fund offered loans to women working in the informal sector in Gaza.

6. The Agency's approach to the serious health problems affecting refugees was to emphasize comprehensive planning for sustainable development and construction of water, sewerage and drainage works. A number of projects, particularly in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Lebanon fields, where the needs were greatest, were in various stages of completion. The Agency was working to define needs and identify priorities while expanding its planning, design and construction capabilities.

7. The network of women's programme centres supported by the Agency had grown significantly, with the number of participants more than doubling between 1991 and 1995. Fee-based courses had been introduced in the centres. UNRWA was evolving from a service provider to a service facilitator, and planned to achieve full community management of all its centres for women's programmes, community rehabilitation and youth activities by 1999.

8. The Agency's new family planning programme provided medical supervision to pregnant women and nursing mothers, as well as providing counselling and a wide range of contraceptive methods. The number of UNRWA health units offering family planning services had more than doubled in the last three years.

9. In 1995, UNRWA had launched the Organization Development Initiative, a management development programme which it was hoped would not only enhance the professionalism of Agency staff but also facilitate the eventual handover of services and contribute to the general development of Palestinian human resources.

10. The Agency had given assistance in various forms to the Palestinian Authority, providing schooling and medical and housing assistance for returning refugee families and released detainees. The Agency was working to improve and expand the infrastructure the Palestinian Authority had taken over from the Israeli civil administration, building one new secondary school, and maintaining or improving existing schools, garbage depository sites and water and sewerage systems. It had also, at the request of the Secretary-General, paid members of the Palestinian Police Force from funds contributed by donors. The main goal of the Agency's contacts with the Palestinian Authority was the harmonization of services to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication, thus laying the groundwork for an eventual handover of services in the education, health and relief and social services sectors.

11. UNRWA was closely monitoring the situation of Palestinians expelled from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and was ready to provide humanitarian services to those Palestinian refugees registered with the Agency in its area of operations. It was already providing medical attention, blankets and baby food to Palestinians stranded between Egypt and Gaza, and had sent a mission, in conjunction with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to the Saloum camp on the Libyan-Egyptian border to assess the situation of the refugees.

12. The financial position of UNRWA was a matter of serious concern. The current fiscal year would be the third consecutive year to end with a shortfall, despite continuing austerity and cost-saving measures. However, the Agency aimed at maintaining the traditional rate of increase of 5 per cent a year, despite new demands on its resources. Among those demands was the need to make an annual allocation in the regular budget to create a fund for termination indemnities. The budget continued to be an austerity budget, and the Agency's resources were overstretched; the Secretary-General of the Arab League had been asked to approach Arab donors with a request that they should raise their contribution from 1 per cent to 3 per cent of the budget.

13. The relocation of the Agency's Vienna headquarters to the Gaza Strip was proceeding apace, with construction work beginning on a new headquarters building in Gaza; almost half of the budgeted cost had been covered by pledges and contributions. Meanwhile, a number of operational units had been successfully relocated to Amman.

14. Restrictions imposed by the Israeli authorities had led to serious restraints on the Agency's operations in the occupied territory. The restrictions were especially strict for the Agency's Palestinian staff but senior international staff had also experienced problems. UNRWA vehicles were frequently searched at the Erez checkpoint between Gaza and Israel, and its diplomatic pouch had been inspected. It sometimes seemed that UNRWA vehicles were being detained while those of other international organizations were

allowed to pass. Restrictions on movement, even within the Gaza Strip, were becoming ever tighter, and that did not bode well for the forthcoming headquarters move. If present Israeli practices continued, the Agency would not be able to carry out its operations in Gaza and the West Bank; nor would it be able to transfer its headquarters, as requested in General Assembly resolution 49/35 A (1994), without suffering serious adverse effects on its operations. The Commissioner-General had written to the Israeli Foreign Minister expressing his serious concerns about the restrictions imposed on UNRWA staff, and had received a reply written in a constructive spirit, which he hoped would allow a modus operandi to be worked out urgently.

15. UNRWA was in the contradictory position of planning for its own eventual dissolution while expanding its programmes and operations. A lot had been achieved, and the Agency had acquired a new dimension as it responded to the call of the General Assembly "to continue to contribute towards the development of economic and social stability in the occupied territory". In its critical mission at a time of historic transition, UNRWA deserved the full support of the General Assembly, concerned countries and all donor States.

16. Mr. AASS (Norway), introducing the report of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA (A/50/491) said that in view of the $6 million deficit with which the Agency had begun 1995, the financial prospects for the year had not been favourable. In meetings with major donors and representatives of other concerned Governments, the Commissioner-General had once again appealed for help.

17. The past year had continued to see dramatic and positive political developments in the area in which UNRWA operated, and the major parties to the peace process as well as the major donors had asked UNRWA to play a role in helping to effect improvements in the social and economic spheres. The eventual phasing-out of UNRWA as the political process unfolded, however, had raised the issue of termination indemnities, and donors had agreed that the Agency should begin to include a provision for them in its budget. The donors had also stipulated that the cost of relocating UNRWA headquarters to the Gaza Strip should not in any way be financed out of the regular budget or established project resources; to date, however, there was a considerable shortfall in the special fund established by the Agency to cover the costs of the move.

18. The Working Group was concerned to note that UNRWA had once again been able to carry out its regular activities only by drawing on its working capital reserves in 1994, and that it expected to have another shortfall in its budget in 1995. It shared the Commissioner-General's concern that the activities forming the core of UNRWA services to Palestine refugees were increasingly vulnerable owing to such chronic budget deficits, which would eventually force programme reductions. It would be extremely unfortunate if the substantial social and economic benefits of the programmes were thus undermined. The Working Group therefore strongly urged all Governments that had not yet contributed to UNRWA to do so, and others to increase their contributions and to consider making additional contributions to the Peace Implementation Programme and to construction and other projects.

19. Ms. ABDELHADY (Observer for Palestine) said that item 84 went beyond UNRWA to the larger and crucial issue of the Palestine refugees - the oldest and biggest refugee problem in the world - and resolutions adopted on the item should continue to reflect that reality.

20. The Middle East peace negotiations on the refugee problem and other final status issues had been postponed to the second stage of the process. As their fate was discussed, the Palestine refugees should not be forgotten by the international community, which must safeguard their rights during the interim period.

21. Three million two hundred thousand Palestine refugees, including some of the persons displaced in 1967, remained dispersed throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and elsewhere, and were awaiting a just and comprehensive resolution of their plight on the basis of the right of repatriation or compensation, as stipulated in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

22. Given the recent developments in the peace process, the Palestinian National Authority would soon be responsible for all populated areas in the West Bank. Already, a satisfactory and cooperative working relationship between the Authority and UNRWA had been forged, and the General Assembly decision on the relationship between the Advisory Commission of UNRWA and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) had begun to be put into effect.

23. Palestine welcomed the relocation of UNRWA headquarters from Vienna to the Gaza Strip but regretted that financial constraints and administrative difficulties imposed by the Israeli authorities were delaying the transfer. It was crucial to harmonize the Agency's programmes and services with those of the Authority in the education, health, and relief and social service sectors. On the other hand, her delegation did not favour transferring the Agency's responsibilities and operations to the Authority at the current stage, for that should be part of a comprehensive political solution of the refugee problem. Until such time, UNRWA services were a crucial element in the success of the peace process and would continue to be required. It was extremely premature even to contemplate a time-limit on the Agency's existence and, indeed, its services must be maintained and improved.

24. UNRWA itself, in response to the changes produced by the peace process, had begun moving into new areas. Projects under the second phase of the Peace Implementation Programme (PIP) had been exceedingly productive in generating income and creating jobs at the local level in the Agency's five fields of operation, as well as in terms of infrastructural development. Unfortunately, the Agency's ability to function was still being hampered by restrictive and punitive Israeli measures that exacerbated already difficult circumstances.

25. The situation of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons, many of them refugees, had not been completely resolved and remained a matter of high concern. The refugee affairs officers in the field were to be commended for the legal advice and assistance they provided to safeguard the legal and human rights of refugees. Their work had been particularly important in an area where

the violence of a handful of extremist settlers was a source of great tension. Other serious problems during the period under review had been the further construction in settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, the expropriation of Palestinian lands and the demolition of Palestinian homes by the Israeli authorities.

26. After nearly 50 years of operation, UNRWA remained a beacon of hope and survival as a new era promising peace, coexistence and prosperity began to dawn.

27. Mr. BATAINEH (Jordan) said that his Government's interest in the question of the Palestine refugees was axiomatic. Jordan, being host to the largest number and having continued to absorb them incessantly since 1948 in response to each new crisis in the region, had been the country most burdened and affected by the tragedy of the Palestinian people, financially, economically and socially. The political and humanitarian dimensions of the Palestine refugee question were intertwined, whence his Government's interest in everything that concerned UNRWA operations, terms of reference and programmes. A political resolution of the refugee question was obviously central to the comprehensive and just peace settlement to which all aspired, and in the meantime UNRWA must continue to offer its full range of services.

28. Jordan shared the Commissioner-General's concern over the Agency's deteriorating financial situation which might force a curtailment of its services in 1996. The noticeable international failure to meet even the inadequate budget for the Agency's programmes had forced his Government to provide services amounting to $250 million a year directly to the refugees to satisfy their remaining needs. Any reduction in UNRWA services would consequently impose additional financial burdens on his already overburdened Government. As it was, although Jordan was host to 40 per cent of the Palestine refugees, UNRWA allocated only 20 per cent of its budget to its regional office in the country.

29. Any reduction in UNRWA services would undermine one of the pillars of the peace process. As had been recognized in General Assembly resolution 48/40, the Agency's activities, like those of the specialized agencies and the World Bank, were indispensable to the economic and social stability of the occupied territories. The Palestine refugees were one, regardless of the area in which they happened to be; their cause was one, and their basic needs were the same. The transfer of UNRWA headquarters to its area of operation could only enhance its effectiveness and operational efficiency and allow it to keep pace with the evolving needs of the Palestine refugees.

30. Mr. GNEHM (United States of America) reaffirmed his Government's full support for the work of UNRWA and for an extension of its mandate. UNRWA had been invaluable in assisting Palestine refugees at a very difficult and critical time, and its role would remain a vital one during the period of its new mandate. The United States had, as a sign of support for the transfer of its headquarters to the region, already contributed $2 million towards the move, but funding from other donors was still required to complete the process. As the largest single donor to UNRWA, the United States was pleased to note that its financial situation for 1995 indicated that its General Fund - whose growth UNRWA was rightly trying to contain - was nearly fully funded and that there had

been a strong donor response in support of its Peace Implementation Programme. UNRWA must, however, keep its expenditures within the funding levels which were made available to it.

31. UNRWA would need to adjust its operation as the peace process evolved and the needs of the Palestine refugee community changed. Increased consultation between UNRWA and the advisory and donor Governments, and the full support and cooperation of the international community, were a necessary part of the successful fulfilment of its mandate.

32. The Commissioner-General of UNRWA should be specifically commended for the dedication and professionalism he had displayed throughout his tenure during a critical time for the Palestine refugees.

33. Mr. PÉREZ-GRIFFO (Spain), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that because the two parties directly concerned had stayed their course and remained committed to the peace process, they had continued to make heartening progress. For the first time Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip had been able to manage their own affairs, albeit in limited spheres, and thousands of refugees had been able to return to those areas. Life was gradually being transformed. The redeployment of Israeli troops and the initial steps to set up the Palestinian Authority were remarkable indications of an emerging new reality in the Middle East. The holding of Palestinian elections would be a particularly important development that would reinforce the achievements thus far, and the European Union planned to contribute substantially to the organization of elections.

34. The transformations had created new tasks and challenges for UNRWA. Its long experience and its operational capability had put it in a privileged position to buttress the ongoing peace process. The Agency had been instrumental in bringing about real improvement in the social and economic conditions of Palestine refugees, despite difficult working conditions and obstacles that were still a source of concern. Its regular programmes in the education, health, and relief and social service sectors gave indispensable assistance to 3.2 million Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the West Bank, including Jericho, and the self-rule area of the Gaza Strip. UNRWA assistance was, of course, by definition temporary and could not be a substitute for a lasting political solution to the refugee problem. In the meantime, however, Agency services remained a crucial element in the success of the peace process and would continue to be required.

35. Agency operations would eventually be transferred to the Palestinian Authority at its request and the Agency's assistance to the nascent Authority as it expanded its operational and institutional capabilities was particularly welcome. Also welcome was the start of the relocation of UNRWA headquarters to the Gaza Strip, and the establishment of various Agency departments in Amman. It was very important for it to maintain its operations on behalf of Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic.

36. The member States of the European Union had again been the main contributors to the Agency in 1994, with over $179 million. Its financial situation was a matter of great concern to them. Financial shortfalls for the

third consecutive year threatened its regular programmes, sending a wrong signal to the region. The European Union called upon other States to increase their support or to begin to contribute financially to the success of the Middle East peace process. The European Union was prepared to do its share, and a convention between the Community and UNRWA was being drafted to govern the Community's contribution to the Agency for the years 1996-1998.

37. Mr. CELEM (Turkey) said that the agreement signed recently between Israel and Palestine was a decisive step towards peace and brought closer the time when the refugee problem would be resolved and UNRWA's operations transferred to the Palestinian Authority. In carrying out that transfer, however, the utmost care must be taken not to lower the quality of the services the Agency had been providing.

38. Turning to the financial situation of the Agency, he noted that there had been a gratifying response to the Peace Implementation Programme. On the other hand, the estimated deficit of UNRWA's regular budget by the last quarter of 1995 again amounted to $4 million. That recurring deficit problem put a heavy burden on the Agency's working capital, which was about to be exhausted. A second area in which contributions had fallen short was the special fund established to cover the costs of moving the Agency's headquarters from Vienna to Gaza.

39. Noting that his country had increased its contribution to the 1995 budget of UNRWA by 50 per cent compared to 1994 and had pledged $25,000 for the moving of UNRWA headquarters to Gaza, he appealed to Member States to increase their contributions to UNRWA.

40. As a country of the region which had always supported the just cause of the Palestinians, Turkey was committed to helping the efforts to achieve a full reconciliation in the region, and would support all initiatives aiming at a settlement based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973).

41. Mr. TAKAHASHI (Japan) welcomed the recent agreement between Israel and the Palestinians on the expansion of Palestinian interim self-rule and expressed the hope that Israel and the PLO would continue to make further efforts to advance the peace process. Under current circumstances, Japan believed that there was a real need to continue and enhance UNRWA's activities in the self-rule areas, and in particular that, during the transitional period, the Agency should continue to provide administrative assistance to the Palestinian people supplementary to the services provided by the Palestinian Authority. It should also undertake short-term projects in the self-rule areas to create employment activities and thereby increase revenues through taxation. Improvement of the living conditions of the Palestinian people and the establishment of economic independence were essential for the stability of interim self-rule. Japan welcomed the self-help efforts of the Palestinian people and called for greater financial assistance and a diversification of sources of support for those efforts.

42. Japan's Prime Minister had recently expressed his country's intention to continue to provide assistance through such international channels as UNRWA, and had in addition declared its decision to extend a portion of such assistance

directly to the Palestinians. Of the US$ 200 million in such assistance Japan had pledged in September 1993, to be disbursed over a two-year period, US$ 150 million had already been extended. In addition, Japan had in 1995 contributed US$ 2 million to cover the construction costs of the Agency's offices in Gaza and Amman and would appeal to other Governments to do likewise. It had also pledged US$ 18 million to UNRWA's regular programme budget, which was a $500,000 increase over its 1994 contribution. Of that total pledged amount, it had allocated $11 million to the Agency's General Fund, $500,000 for university scholarships for Palestine refugee students and $6.5 million to its Peace Implementation Programme projects. It had again in 1995 contributed food aid worth Y800 million to Palestinian refugees in all areas of the Agency's operations who were suffering from chronic food shortages, and would continue its programme of inviting Palestinian trainees and students to Japan and dispatching vocational training specialists to the area.

43. His delegation believed that the renewal of the Agency's mandate should be considered at the current session and that the next mandate review should be conducted close to the end of the five-year interim period outlined in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government of 13 September 1993. Accordingly, it would be appropriate to extend the Agency's mandate for another three years, until June 1999.

44. At the same time, however, it was necessary to consider what role UNRWA was to play in the future. Clearly, greater coordination between the Agency and the Palestinian Authority was needed. His delegation therefore urged that a resolution be adopted at the current session affirming the importance of coordination and requesting the Secretary-General to devise a plan of action that would facilitate such coordination. It should be noted in that regard that UNRWA remained a works agency to provide assistance to Palestine refugees, and was not an organization for the delivery of development aid. Thus, UNRWA should strictly limit itself to short-term projects that would have an immediate effect on the Palestinian people in terms of job creation and improvements in their living standards.

45. There had recently been a proliferation of increasingly complex resolutions concerning UNRWA. His delegation believed that it was necessary during the current session to consolidate, to the extent possible, resolutions dealing with similar issues. Based on the recent progress made in the peace process, it would like to examine individual resolutions and the issues they addressed, in order to determine the most effective way of contributing to the achievement of peace in the Middle East. It therefore hoped that any draft resolution submitted would be supportive of the peace process rather than running counter to it.

46. Mr. AL-ATTAR (Syrian Arab Republic), recalling General Assembly resolution 194 (III) and in particular paragraph 11 thereof, asserted that any attempt to settle Palestine refugees in neighbouring States with a view to maintaining their current situation would violate United Nations resolutions, as well as human rights, and would not be conducive to security, peace and stability in the region. With reference to the report of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA, he wished to make various comments to be taken into account during the coming phase of work.

47. First, in connection with the financial and other difficulties entailed in the relocation of UNRWA headquarters to the Gaza Strip, which his delegation had opposed, he hoped that the Amman centre would be strengthened with a view to enabling the refugee host countries to attend meetings of the Advisory Commission.

48. Secondly, the austerity measures in force at UNRWA had adversely affected the quality of its services at a time when the number of refugees was increasing, meaning that it was incapable of satisfying even their most essential needs. Donor States should therefore be urged to meet their obligations and increase their contributions with a view to covering the financial deficit.

49. Thirdly, he noted the inconsistency between UNRWA policy and the further cutback in services and programmes that would occur if, as stated in paragraph 27 of the report, UNRWA's working capital were to be virtually eliminated as a result of covering that deficit.

50. Fourthly, he hoped that the proposed reduction in UNRWA's budget allocations for health and social programmes in the Syrian Arab Republic would be reviewed and subsequently increased to account for the growth in the refugee population.

51. Fifthly, the report had omitted to state that the Syrian Arab Republic shouldered enormous financial burdens in its capacity as host to Palestine refugees. He thus hoped that the next report would contain the relevant information and figures in that connection.

52. Lastly, he hoped that efforts would be made to develop the health, educational, social and medical services provided to Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic by UNRWA, bearing in mind the serious impact which the austerity measures had had on those services. In conclusion, he emphasized his country's willingness to cooperate with UNRWA and his wish that United Nations resolutions would eventually be implemented so that Palestine refugees could return home, thereby ending the difficult task assigned to UNRWA.

53. Mr. ALGHAMDI (Saudi Arabia) commended UNRWA for its perseverance in endeavouring to fulfil its arduous task in the face of Israeli harassment of its staff and activities, coupled with dwindling finances, growing numbers of refugees and the requirement to provide essential needs, particularly in the fields of health and education. The latest developments in the peace process and the current negotiations between the two sides had given the Palestine refugees the hope that they would soon be able to return home. However, that hope would not be realized unless negotiations were able to progress unhindered by the obstinacy and procrastination often displayed on the part of Israel. His country continued to provide financial and moral support to UNRWA and to Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and elsewhere, thus reflecting its faith in the role played by UNRWA. Finally, in connection with the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace leading to security and stability, he hoped that all peace-loving States would urge Israel to meet its obligations vis-à-vis the peace process and facilitate the return of the Palestine refugees to their homes.

54. Mr. SHAKED (Israel) noted that in the past year several additional agreements had been reached between Israel and the PLO to help bring an end to the conflict between the two peoples, the most important of them being the second interim agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority signed on 28 September 1995. In his delegation's opinion, that new agreement reflected the genuine desire of both sides to implement all of the understandings and agreements reached thus far regarding the establishment of a Palestinian interim self-rule authority and reaffirmed the desire of both sides to achieve a just, lasting, comprehensive and durable peace settlement as part of a historic reconciliation between Israel and its Arab neighbours in general.

55. His Government was currently in the process of implementing three major tasks: completing the transfer of civil powers and responsibilities to the Palestinian Authority; accomplishing within the scheduled time-frame the staged redeployment of the Israeli military forces in "Zone A" in the West Bank; and implementing all of its commitments to enable the Palestinians to hold free and democratic elections for their Council and for the chairmanship of their Executive Authority. The successful completion of those tasks was a test and a target for both Israel and the Palestinians. The current interim period was an integral part of the progression towards the next critical stage: the beginning in May 1996 of the discussions on the permanent status of the territories.

56. The Committee was aware of the difficulties accompanying the peace process and of the grave circumstances created by the continuous wave of terrorist actions by suicide bombers whose murderous acts were directed not only against innocent Israelis but against all peoples of the Middle East who hoped for a better future. Organizations such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad were doing everything in their power to jeopardize the peace process and to challenge the legitimacy of the Palestinian Authority and its leadership. UNRWA as well as other international agencies and missions in the area did not function in isolation from the environment created by such murderous acts. While every effort was being made by Israel to facilitate and assist the Agency, it requested the necessary understanding and forbearance of UNRWA. At the current fragile stage of the peace process, huge efforts were required to provide security and stability for all people in Israel and the territories alike. Under those circumstances, he would only note briefly that Israel took issue with the manner in which the annual report on UNRWA described various incidents that had occurred in the territories during the year under review, as well as with the report's inclusion of political issues beyond the scope of UNRWA's mandate.

57. In the light of the major progress achieved in recent years in the pursuit of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, his delegation considered it more than ever essential that the Committee should focus its resolutions regarding UNRWA only on issues directly related to the Agency's humanitarian tasks and refrain from adopting resolutions relating to political issues that were irrelevant to the work for which UNRWA was responsible and detached from the new reality in the region. To that end, the number of UNRWA resolutions should be reduced to one, directly related to the Agency's humanitarian tasks. That would be more compatible with the essential need to refrain from any reference to issues such as Jerusalem, refugees and settlements that Israel and the PLO had

agreed would be dealt with bilaterally, within the framework of the permanent status negotiations.

58. Mr. AL-MUTAIRI (Kuwait) said that his delegation continued to be distressed at the poor living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank resulting from the continuation of repressive Israeli policies. The practices involved adversely affected the life of the Palestinian people and impeded the work of UNRWA especially in matters involving the restriction on movement and security measures imposed by the Israeli authorities on the Agency.

59. His delegation welcomed the recent signing of the Palestinian-Israeli interim agreement providing for the expansion of Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and hoped that further positive developments would materialize on the Israeli-Syrian/Lebanese front. That should lead to a just, lasting and comprehensive peace agreement based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978), involving the principle of land for peace and Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories.

60. Kuwait supported the Middle East peace process not only symbolically but politically and economically, as was manifested by its continuing contribution of $1.5 million to the regular budget of UNRWA and the payment of $21 million, out of $25 million pledged, for the financing of development projects in the Palestinian autonomous areas. On the political front, Kuwait was participating effectively in the multilateral meetings arising out of the Middle East peace process.

61. Mr. DOUDECH (Tunisia) said that UNRWA's role was essential to ensuring that the peace process continued in an appropriate socio-economic climate. He believed, however, that its role would end only when the problem of the Palestine refugees was finally resolved in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) in the context of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the relevant resolutions of both the Security Council and the General Assembly. However, there would be serious repercussions for the Palestine refugees and the peace process unless the difficulties facing UNRWA were overcome, in that its ongoing deficit restricted its ability to improve the lot of the growing number of those refugees. In that connection, he also regretted the obstructions to UNRWA's work in the occupied territories and hoped that such practices would cease in the run-up to the complete Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank. The international community had an essential role to play during the current decisive period of the peace process, and it was important to increase financial support with a view to meeting the deficit and thus enabling UNRWA to fulfil more effectively its function of improving the situation of the Palestine refugees. His own country continued to support UNRWA with the interests of those refugees and the Middle East peace process in mind.

62. Mr. JELBAN (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, wished to clarify the Libyan position concerning the statement of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA in connection with the Palestinians in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya's support of the Palestinian people could not be surpassed, and the Palestinians in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had not been expelled; rather, they had made their own decision to leave, in which

connection it should be remembered that assistance from UNRWA could not replace their homeland. He therefore wondered why UNRWA, rather than simply helping those refugees to survive, had not helped them to return to that homeland and why there had been such opposition to their decision to do so. He further wondered why UNRWA had not protested against the fact that Jewish refugees had moved to Palestine from their original homes in Europe and why it did not appeal to the Israelis to guarantee the return of the Palestinian people to its homeland, as well as the implementation of the relevant United Nations resolutions in that respect. The answer to those questions was that many did not wish the Palestinian people to return to its homeland; instead, they wanted Palestinians to remain as refugees and to settle in Arab countries so that Palestine would belong exclusively to Israel. It was unimaginable that any solution to the Palestinian problem should not include as a prime consideration the return of the Palestinian people to its homeland, which was its inalienable right, as was its self-determination, its independence, its national sovereignty and its right to establish a homeland in the entire territory of Palestine. If UNRWA was truly concerned about the rights and humanitarian circumstances of the Palestinian people, it should guarantee and support the latter's right of return to its homeland, rather than provide mere financial support, particularly now that UNRWA was facing financial difficulties which could bring its work to a halt.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FIFTIETH SESSION

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SPECIAL POLITICAL AND
DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE
(FOURTH COMMITTEE)
13th meeting
held on
Tuesday, 31 October 1995
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 13th MEETING

Chairman:	Mr. MUTHAURA	(Kenya)
later:	Mr. HOLOHAN (Vice-Chairman)	(Ireland)
later:	Mr. MUTHAURA (Chairman)	(Kenya)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 84: UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST (continued) (A/50/13, Add.1, Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.1/Corr.2 Arabic only), A/50/82-S/1995/135, A/50/159-S/1995/312, A/50/168-S/1995/341, A/50/428, A/50/450, A/50/451, A/50/491, A/50/500 and A/50/531)

1. Archbishop MARTINO (Observer for the Holy See) drew attention to two important steps in the process of bringing peace to a land holy to Jews, Christians and Muslims. The first was the agreement signed in September 1995 between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, which set in motion the withdrawal of Israeli forces and the establishment of autonomous regions. The second was the appointment of H.E. Afif Safieh as representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the Holy See. Those working towards a comprehensive peace settlement needed all reasonable means of support, as there were still extremist forces in the region bringing death and injury to innocent civilians.

2. If autonomy was to have real meaning for the Palestinian people, the international community must ensure that funding was carefully directed so as to create employment. The guarantee of jobs for Palestinians was assuredly one way to guarantee security for Israel. Young people whose education had been disrupted by the intifadah and school closures had to be taught the value of pluralism and cooperation in an educational system which reflected a desire for peace and harmony. He recalled that the Pontifical Mission for Palestine, in collaboration with numerous donor agencies from around the world, had worked with Palestine refugees since 1949 in the areas of education, health services and relief.

3. He drew attention to his delegation's concerns for the Holy City of Jerusalem; as Pope John Paul II had said, its unique and sacred character should be the object of international guarantees that would guarantee its access to all believers. Equal rights must be guaranteed for Jews, Christians and Muslims, allowing freedom of worship and access to the Holy Places. His delegation hoped that the spiritual patrimony of the city would be respected and that while negotiations proceeded, no undue effort would be made to alter the demography of Jerusalem and its environs. Negotiations on the status of Jerusalem must have a spiritual dimension if the three religions were to remain a living presence there.

4. The work of the negotiators in the peace process and the service rendered by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) were to be applauded. Pope John Paul II's words to the General Assembly in October 1995 on the need for an ethic of solidarity could be appropriately applied to the work of UNRWA. As the Pope had said, the international cooperation called for by the Charter of the United Nations could not be conceived exclusively in terms of help and assistance, but required a commitment to the solidarity which enabled others to live out the creativity which was the distinguishing mark of the human person.

5. Mr. FOWLER (Canada) said that despite restrictions on the freedom of movement of Agency personnel, a source of grave concern to Canada, UNRWA was

continuing to improve the lives of many refugees by developing essential infrastructures. The peace process was advancing in the Middle East, as attested by the recent signing of the Interim Agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority and the successful establishment of bilateral relations between Israel and Jordan in the year since the signing of the peace treaty between them. He encouraged Israel, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon to resume bilateral negotiations.

6. In its efforts to coordinate its activities with the Palestinian Authority, UNRWA had shown itself to be sensitive to Palestinian concerns and had demonstrated its willingness to adapt to a constantly changing situation. The Agency had made an invaluable contribution to the Working Group on Refugees, cooperating at all levels in implementing specific projects. He hoped that the international community would generously support the second phase of the Peace Implementation Programme, which had transformed the goals of the peace process into tangible benefits for refugees and displaced persons by creating thousands of jobs. However, Canada remained concerned over the Agency's lack of resources and had been working for an increase in contributions to its programmes.

7. As the peace process moved forward, UNRWA continued to serve as a stabilizing force in the region. It was important that the eventual transfer of its functions to the Palestinian Authority should be planned carefully, to consolidate the management and operational capabilities of the Authority and the emerging Palestinian institutions. Meanwhile, the international community must not neglect those Palestine refugees and displaced persons - the vast majority in fact - who lived outside the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

8. The fulfilment of the Agency's tasks remained a priority for Canada, which had maintained its level of contributions despite budget cuts elsewhere and would continue to support the peace process until the Agency could complete the job entrusted to it 45 years earlier.

9. Mrs. BANTSI (Botswana) said that the pursuit of the ideal of lasting peace and the alleviation of human suffering required the political goodwill and untiring efforts of all Member States. UNRWA had achieved some measure of success in providing relief and social services to the Palestine refugees, especially in the fields of education and health. She welcomed the recent signing of the Interim Agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and the conciliatory speeches of the Palestinian and Israeli leaders at the Special Commemorative Meeting of the General Assembly in October 1995. There was hope that the cycle of conflict and violence had been broken and that peace and security would return to the Middle East. There would be no better way for the United Nations to celebrate its 50 years of existence than to restore to the Palestine refugees their legitimate right to a normal way of life.

10. While Botswana commended UNRWA for its work in very difficult circumstances and with the added constraint of the debilitating financial shortfalls of recent years, it anxiously awaited a complete cessation of hostilities in the Middle East. The words in the UNESCO Constitution were particularly relevant to the peace process in the Middle East: "... since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed".

11. Mr. ABOUL-NASR (Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States), speaking of the significant steps achieved towards peace in the region, remarked that recent resolutions adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States had drawn attention to Israel's deferred fulfilment of its obligations under the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements and the requirement to respect the specified deadlines, as well as the agreement concerning implementation of the second phase of the Interim Agreement on self-rule. The Council had also called on all States to provide the Palestinian people with material and political support and reasserted that the transfer of embassies to Jerusalem was in breach of the relevant United Nations resolutions and the measures agreed between Israel and Palestine, as was the recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. In that connection, it was essential to remedy the important issue of Jerusalem to the satisfaction of all those concerned. The Council had similarly called for support for UNRWA, bearing in mind that the problem was an international responsibility and that UNRWA's work should continue until the Palestine refugee question was resolved in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (III). It had further appealed to all States, including Arab States, to increase their contributions to UNRWA.

12. It should be recognized, however, that the road to a just, durable and comprehensive peace was still long and that the impact of the significant progress already achieved remained limited, particularly concerning the situation of the Palestine refugees. Given its experience, UNRWA could help to surmount the fresh obstacles which had arisen in that respect. It was therefore important to deflect any attempt to jeopardize or place a time-limit on UNRWA's work, which would have damaging implications for the peace process. In that context, he emphasized the particular relevance of the concluding remarks contained in paragraphs 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA (A/50/491). Having noted the reported developments in the various programmes run by UNRWA, he drew attention to General Assembly resolution 49/35 G concerning the University of Jerusalem "Al Quds" for Palestine refugees, which he hoped would be implemented at the earliest possible opportunity. He also noted with concern UNRWA's continuing budget deficit, as well as the accumulated effect of the ongoing austerity measures and the fact that the Agency it had been obliged to draw on its capital reserves. He again endorsed the warning contained in document A/59/491 to the effect that a reduction in UNRWA's work or resources would have a negative impact on the peace process, particularly since UNRWA represented an element of stability in the region as long as the Palestine refugee problem remained unresolved.

13. The situation was not improved by the Israeli practices in the occupied territories, such as those cited in paragraph 36 of document A/50/13, which continued in contravention of the agreements reached and international humanitarian law, notably the fourth Geneva Convention. He therefore hoped that the Committee would condemn such repressive practices, which heavily overshadowed Israel's future intentions and could affect the peace process.

14. Commending the efforts of UNRWA and the Palestinian Authority in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, he concluded by affirming the willingness of the League of Arab States to continue its cooperation with UNRWA in support of its work, which was vital to fostering the current peace process.

15. Mr. SANTAPUTRA (Thailand) said that UNRWA was one of the most admired organs of the United Nations as it continued to prepare the groundwork for a durable peace in the Middle East. It was heartening to note the number of positive developments since the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in 1993, with further agreements between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and Israel and Jordan. It was paradoxical that while the political process was moving forward successfully, the repatriation of hundreds of thousands of Palestine refugees was creating a greater refugee problem. At such a crucial time the States Members of the United Nations must continue to support and provide increased resources to UNRWA. Thailand felt it was proper that the Agency's headquarters should be relocated to the Gaza Strip, where it would be able to react quickly to the needs of the Palestine refugees, and where it could help to reinforce the peace process.

16. Thailand understood very well the plight of refugees and displaced persons, and fully recognized the need to provide UNRWA with the necessary resources. It was therefore more than doubling its contribution to UNRWA in 1995. It would continue to offer its full support to the Agency until such time as peace was achieved and the new Palestinian administration was able to provide for its citizens.

17. Mr. Holohan (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

18. Mr. YOOGALINGAM (Malaysia) joined with previous speakers in expressing his appreciation for the outstanding work done by UNRWA in all its areas of operation. He was pleased to note that the Agency had extended its Peace Implementation Programme to include Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. He also welcomed the close cooperation under the second phase of the programme between UNRWA and the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction. He supported the relocation of headquarters from Vienna to Gaza, in which progress had unfortunately been rather slow. He was concerned by the continued interference by the Israeli authorities in the Agency's operations during the period covered by the report of the Commissioner-General, and called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to fulfil its obligations and cooperate fully with UNRWA. He was disturbed by the ongoing restrictions on movement imposed by the Israeli authorities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as they would only exacerbate the economic hardship of Palestinians living in the area. He deeply regretted the Israeli Government's intention to use confiscated Palestinian land for housing Israeli settlers and the demolition by Israeli authorities of unlicensed houses in the West Bank.

19. His delegation shared the consensus view that no time-limit should be placed on the Agency's existence, and that the eventual transfer of its operations to the Palestinian Authority should be made at the request of the Authority when political and economic conditions permitted. The financial shortfalls faced by UNRWA threatened not only the well-being of the Palestinians but also the peace process itself. Malaysia would continue to contribute within its means to UNRWA and hoped that Member States with the financial capabilities would increase their contributions. His delegation was optimistic that peace

would soon become a reality in the occupied territories, allowing the Palestinian people to charter their own destiny in their own homeland.

20. Mr. ZHANG Wanhai (China) said that his Government had a deep interest in the peace process in the Middle East and welcomed its continuing progress, in the hope that the parties concerned would reach a just and lasting solution through negotiations.

21. The report of the Commissioner-General (A/50/13) indicated that the number of Palestinian refugees had risen steadily over the last three decades, making the refugee issue an urgent reality. The situation in the areas in which UNRWA operated had changed, and the Agency might have to expand its role, depending on developments. It had done much useful work in the education, health, and relief and social services sectors under difficult circumstances, and its dedicated staff had been enormously helpful to the Palestine refugees. China would continue to assist UNRWA within its means, and hoped that the contributions of all donor countries would enable it to overcome its current financial difficulties.

22. Mr. HAMDAN (Lebanon) said that in the search for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, the problems of the Palestine refugees throughout the region had to be addressed. The services of UNRWA would be needed for a long time to come; even to discuss its life-span would give the wrong signal to donor countries in its current financial constraints. Until they realized their recognized right of return, the refugees would continue to depend on the relief assistance and the social, health and educational services of UNRWA.

23. The Lebanese people had paid dearly with their lives, security and property for the Palestinian cause, which was the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict. They believed in the Palestinians' right of self-determination and unanimously rejected any attempt to settle Palestine refugees in Lebanon - an inalterable position embodied in the Lebanese Constitution and in the 1989 Taif Agreement. As part of its normalization policy, his Government was embarking on an extensive programme to return displaced Palestinians, a national endeavour that required much financial support. It thus appealed for additional contributions to ongoing emergency-related and special UNRWA programmes in Lebanon. Lebanon itself pledged to continue its cooperation and coordination with the Agency in the country.

24. His delegation reiterated its reservation regarding the transfer of UNRWA headquarters to the Gaza Strip, for it believed that the transfer to an area under Israeli occupation could not but hamper the Agency's activities.

25. Mr. Muthaura (Kenya) resumed the Chair.

26. Mr. AL-SUWAIDI (United Arab Emirates) expressed the hope that UNRWA programmes to assist the Palestinian people would be expanded as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 48/40. The new situation in the region required increased assistance to UNRWA by donor States and the United Nations. A just and durable solution to the problem of the Palestine refugees, which had persisted owing to Israel's failure to implement the relevant United Nations

resolutions, could be found only by ending their status as refugees and enabling them to exercise their absolute and unconditional right to return to their homeland. The hindrance caused to UNRWA's work in the occupied territories by the Israeli authorities was cause for deep concern and he hoped that Israel would lift its restrictions in that connection with a view to enabling UNRWA to fulfil its humanitarian role. Given the positive developments in the Palestinian-Israeli situation, he hoped that the Palestinian people would secure its right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State on its national soil, with Jerusalem as its capital, as well as the right to return to its homeland in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

27. Ms. CARAYANIDES (Australia), welcoming the dramatic advances in the peace process in the Middle East since the previous session of the General Assembly, said that the September 1995 Interim Agreement on the expansion of Palestinian self-rule was a tribute to the vision and determination of the leaders on both sides, who would no doubt show equal determination in making the agreement work.

28. For peace to take root, there must be economic development and an improvement in the quality of life of ordinary Palestinians. That was where the work of UNRWA was so vital. Its social and humanitarian work had been a significant factor in helping, both in the occupied territories and elsewhere in the region, to reduce social and economic pressures, with their potential to exacerbate political tensions in the region. The Agency's mandate should be extended.

29. Australia was pleased that UNRWA was cooperating effectively with the Palestinian Authority. The Agency's expertise would be an important asset in building up the needed institutions, and it would no doubt respond resourcefully and effectively to the demands and challenges of the expanding Palestinian self-rule. Her delegation was also confident that the problems caused by restrictions on movement in the Gaza Strip could be resolved, so that the Agency could carry out its tasks.

30. Australia supported the transfer of UNRWA headquarters to the Gaza Strip, both as a demonstration of the international community's commitment to the peace process and because of the benefits the move should bring to the Gaza Strip; steps must however be taken to ensure that the Agency's operational efficiency was maintained.

31. Australia called upon all Member States to support the Agency's demonstrated record of achievement in difficult and dangerous conditions by providing adequate financial backing. Her own Government was a major contributor to the UNRWA project budget and had even managed to increase its contribution.

32. Mr. CASSAR (Malta) said that the breakthrough in the Middle East peace process, especially the signing of the September accords, called for a reassessment of activities related to Palestine refugees. The question of refugees could now be coupled with a long-term vision of security and stability in the region. UNRWA, which for so many years had been instrumental in alleviating the suffering and problems of people, was today an active partner in seeking a viable solution to one of the international community's most long-

standing refugee problems. Document A/50/13 indicated the Agency's awareness of its dual role as relief agency and, equally important, as a focal point in helping Palestinian society build itself, evolve and develop the necessary infrastructure.

33. The Agency's work remained necessary and even crucial until a political solution to the refugee problem was found within the global framework of the peace process. Its activities in the health sector had been noteworthy for their outreach in providing medical services and programmes targeting specific, urgent problems. Its relief and social services, apart from providing emergency assistance, promoted income-generation through small-industry capital grants; needy groups were assisted and at the same time enabled to build a safety net and provide for themselves. Education, that most crucial and beneficial tool for development in a society, was the sector to which the largest part of UNRWA funds were devoted, and the training programmes it offered indicated a pragmatic vision of how to construct a sustainable future. The programmes for vulnerable groups like women and disabled children were exemplary. The Agency had also had a key role in providing for refugees returning to the Gaza Strip pursuant to the signing of the Cairo agreement in 1994. Nevertheless, the rise in UNRWA-registered refugees had strained resources, and the Agency's ability to cope reflected its cost-effectiveness. A lack of resources could, however, erode the hope fostered by the commitment of the Parties.

34. The best guarantee for a peaceful transition was the building of a self-reliant society, and cooperation between UNRWA and the Palestinian Authority remained an essential component in charting the way forward. On the other hand, notwithstanding the good relations between the Agency and the Government of Israel and the recent decline in incidents related to Agency personnel and property, it was a matter of legitimate concern that according to the Commissioner-General, its operations had never been so hampered as they now were. The continuous commitment of the parties concerned to all aspects of a lasting and peaceful solution was essential, particularly in view of the transfer of UNRWA headquarters from Vienna to the Gaza Strip.

35. Mr. RAHIM (Bangladesh) said that the role of UNRWA was changing as the Middle East peace process advanced. His delegation was happy to observe the level of close cooperation between the Agency and the Palestinian Authority that would eventually take over its work. Until such time, UNRWA deserved continued support in providing for the 3.2 million Palestine refugees. Many of its beneficiaries were second-generation refugees whose needs the Agency had been addressing adequately, though not without difficulty, owing to a lack of sufficient resources. It was noteworthy that the Agency had been the second largest employer after the local government, with 99 per cent of its staff drawn from the Palestinian people. Its activities now covered a wide-ranging area: basic education, training, health care, including immunization of children, family planning and pre- and post-natal care, and social welfare services for women, young people and the disabled. The Agency ran 644 schools with an enrolment of over 400,000 pupils, and its contribution in the field of higher education was equally commendable.

36. Once the new UNRWA headquarters in the Gaza Strip was fully operational, the Agency would be able to assist the Palestinian Authority and the people more effectively. Israel, however, should desist from harassing Agency employees in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem. Bangladesh hoped that the peace process in the Middle East would soon reach a conclusion, so that a continuation of the Agency's work might be considered redundant. The Palestinians themselves, of course, should have a say regarding the future of UNRWA.

37. Mr. Byong Hyun LEE (Republic of Korea) said that in recent years several landmark events had created a framework for building a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The Palestinian-Israeli Interim Agreement of 28 September 1995 had moved the parties even closer to consolidating the peace process.

38. UNRWA had maintained its commitment to alleviating human suffering in the face of growing challenges, successfully establishing mechanisms of coordination with the education, health, and relief and social services sectors. The Republic of Korea supported the Peace Implementation Programme. Thanks to a well-planned and comprehensive strategy, the Agency had made a decisive and remarkable contribution towards improving the socio-economic infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, despite the financial constraints of recent years, and had met the immediate needs of the Palestinian people, such as food and medicine, as well as long-term needs in education and environmental health. The transfer of UNRWA headquarters would enhance coordination between UNRWA and the Palestinian authority. That transfer should be carried out in close consultation with, and at the request of, the Palestinian authority. The question of renewing UNRWA's mandate should also be addressed at the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

39. It was essential that Palestinian self-government in Gaza and Jericho should succeed. Recognizing the importance of international assistance to the Palestinian people, the Republic of Korea had offered assistance of US$ 12 million for the rehabilitation projects of the Palestinian people between 1994 and 1998, in addition to its annual cash contribution to UNRWA. It also supported a political settlement in the Middle East based on the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

40. Mr. POERNOMO (Indonesia), observing that the transfer of UNRWA headquarters from Vienna to the Gaza Strip demonstrated the commitment of the United Nations to the peace process in the region and ensured the Agency's effectiveness, said that the extension of Palestinian autonomy to large areas of the West Bank, the withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied territories and other landmark arrangements heralded a new era. His delegation hoped that simultaneous progress would be achieved in Arab-Israeli negotiations along other tracks, leading to a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement.

41. At the current critical juncture in the peace process and until a political solution to the refugee problems was reached, it was essential for UNRWA to maintain its existing services and play a larger role in improving social and economic conditions. The excellent cooperation between the Agency and the nascent Palestinian Authority in various social sectors was heartening, and the

Agency's long experience in the field should be a valuable resource for the Authority.

42. The Agency's commendable Peace Implementation Programme aimed at rapid infrastructural development and a promotion of the Palestinian private sector through income-generating initiatives that would address the long-term needs of the Palestinian community. In the Gaza Strip as well, where decades of conflict had inflicted tremendous suffering on refugees and displaced persons, UNRWA had made an effort to improve the infrastructure and undertake projects in the various social and economic sectors.

43. Indonesia would contribute to UNRWA and support the Palestinian people as it embarked on the path of nation-building.

44. Mr. ABDERAHMAN (Egypt) said that the international community had always hoped to find a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine refugee problem in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (III), thereby eliminating the need for UNWRA. Although optimism had increased with the commendable progression of the peace process to its current stage, the headway made had increased the need for UNWRA's services to Palestine refugees during the current transition phase. Moreover, with a view to supporting the moves towards peace in the occupied territories, UNWRA had had to adjust to the new challenges and objectives thus created, as well as continue its vital programmes for Palestine refugees outside the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He pointed out the benefits which the Palestinian Authority could gain from UNWRA's wide experience and praised the achievements accomplished during the first phase of UNRWA's Peace Implementation Programme (PIP I), as well as the swift response of donor States in that connection.

45. Recalling the unanimous assertion of participants at the March 1995 meeting of the Advisory Commission that UNRWA should continue to provide its services until a political solution was found to the refugee problem, he agreed that it was premature to set a time-limit on UNWRA and felt confident that its mandate would be renewed for a further three years. In that context, the international appreciation of its role should be demonstrated by greater contributions to UNWRA's general budget, which remained in deficit.

46. He welcomed the positive developments produced by the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho and was certain that the Palestinian tragedy would be brought to a close once the Israeli occupation had fully ended. He hoped that the next report of the Commissioner-General of UNRWA would contain no examples of Israeli transgressions of the rights of the Palestinian people, thus enabling it to serve as testimony to the benefits of the peace process. On that basis, the draft resolutions on UNWRA represented an opportunity to continue the efforts to achieve consensus, particularly in view of the international acknowledgement of UNWRA's importance in fostering the peace process. He therefore hoped that the positions of all parties would reflect the new climate created by the recent progress achieved. None the less, attention should not be focused on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip at the expense of UNWRA's vital assistance to the Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and elsewhere; the failure to meet their essential needs could have a negative impact on support for the peace process, not to mention the living

conditions of such refugees, towards whom the international community had a humanitarian duty. He hoped that UNWRA's role in the multilateral negotiations on regional cooperation to solve the Palestine refugee problem would contribute effectively towards a just solution and its implementation. The right path was now being followed towards the achievement of UNWRA's purpose in the context of a peaceful settlement that secured the legitimate national rights of the entire Palestinian people.

47. Mr. AL-HASSAN (Oman) said that, despite the far-reaching changes that had taken place, it was of the utmost importance for UNRWA to remain in operation as a symbol of the continued commitment of the international community to providing assistance to Palestine refugees and as a major factor in promoting peace.

48. The Agency had succeeded in making its presence felt over the years despite the restrictions placed on it. With the signing of the peace agreements, the Agency could play a humanitarian role in the context of the difficult situation being experienced by the Palestinian Authority. The meagre resources at the disposal of that Authority were generally insufficient to meet the basic needs of a people that had been subjected for more than half a century to an occupation that had inflicted on it the most severe forms of subjection and displacement and the destruction of its assets. Given the experience acquired by the Agency and its personnel in dealing with the situation of the Palestine refugees, Oman hoped that UNRWA would not only continue to perform its role but would be further strengthened until such time as there was a definitive solution to the refugee problem.

49. The report of the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA (A/50/491) gave a bleak picture of the Agency's critical financial situation. Despite the austerity measures introduced and the abolition or curtailment of a number of basic programmes, the financial problem still remained, and could only be solved by an international commitment to continued support for UNRWA programmes, especially at a time of crucial developments in the Middle East. For its part, Israel could not evade the historic responsibilities imposed by the situation and by the international agreements governing the status of refugees.

50. There had been positive changes in the Middle East towards the creation of an appropriate climate for the resolution of issues relating to the conflict in the region. Oman was of the view that a pragmatic examination of the refugee issue was essential for the establishment of a lasting peace in the region that would remedy past wrongs and secure the interests of the Palestinian people and its legitimate right to return to its land.

51. It had been said that a solution to the issue of the land depended on a solution to the issue of the people. The Palestine refugees, in Palestine and elsewhere, were part of the Palestinian people, and a solution to the refugee issue was therefore a step in the right direction for a solution to the issue of the people. The Middle East issue required something better than half-solutions, based as it was on just causes and just demands that were supported by international legitimacy, the principle of land for peace and United Nations resolutions affirming that the Palestinian people must be allowed to return to its land.

52. The report of the Commissioner-General showed that the peace process had had a positive impact among Palestinians and on the attitude and conduct of the Israeli authorities dealing with Agency personnel. Much nevertheless remained unchanged, and there were still restrictions on the return of refugees to their homes and on contacts with relatives in the occupied territories. Oman continued to support the peace process, and urged a close and pragmatic examination of all relevant issues with a view to devising a just and definitive settlement that would take account of the rights of the Palestine refugees.

53. Mr. TÜRKMEN (Commissioner-General, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East) thanked the Committee for its expressions of support for him and the important Agency which he represented. In response to suggestions from the representative of Japan at the previous meeting concerning improved coordination between United Nations agencies and the Palestinian Authority, he noted that there was already very good coordination between UNRWA and representatives of the Palestinian Authority. The Secretary-General had already taken steps to increase coordination between United Nations agencies and the United Nations and the Palestinian Authority. Resolution 49/35 stressed the importance of the appointment of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the occupied territories and of coordinating activities throughout the occupied territories. The Secretary-General had appointed a Special Coordinator and several coordinating mechanisms existed, such as the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, the Consultative Group of the World Bank and local aid coordinating committees in Gaza. Thus there was already sufficient coordination in the area; if, however, the suggestion by Japan was a politically motivated one intended to accelerate transfer of responsibility from UNRWA to the Palestinian Authority, then he would refrain from any comment.

54. Responding to another remark made by the representative of Japan at the previous session, the Commissioner-General said that UNRWA's basic mission was not to deliver aid per se but rather to work in human resource development: schools, education, health centres, income generation, environmental health projects, and relief for Palestinian refugees, especially the poorest among them. If UNRWA were to abandon those activities there would be no real need for the Agency. Resolution 49/35 stated that UNRWA should contribute towards the development of economic and social stability in the occupied territories. UNRWA was fulfilling that mandate rather than working on more long-term infrastructure projects such as ports and power plants, in order to provide immediate benefits for the Palestinians in the areas of social structure and employment.

The meeting was suspended at 5.32 p.m. and resumed at 5.43 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 92: THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OF CROATIA

55. The CHAIRMAN stated that, after consultations, he took it that the Committee wished to postpone discussion of agenda item 92 until the following meeting.

56. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (Territories not covered under other agenda items) (A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1, A/C.4/50/L.6) (continued)

57. Mr. ZAHID (Morocco), speaking on a point of order concerning the draft resolution on Western Sahara, stated his concern that the revised version of the draft (A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1) had been available for only a few days, and his delegation had not had enough time to discuss amendments with the co-sponsors.

58. Mr. SOUFIANE (Algeria), speaking on a point of order, stated that the debate on Western Sahara was closed and that the Chairman should intercede to prevent a reopening of the debate.

59. The CHAIRMAN stated that although debate on the question was closed, the resolution was still on the table.

60. Mr. ZAHID (Morocco) stated that he simply wished to explain his delegation's request to carry over discussion of the resolution to the following week. Morocco had not been consulted on some new paragraphs in the resolution and therefore the text could not be called a consensus text. In order to arrive at a true consensus text, Morocco needed time to discuss the text with the co-sponsors.

61. The CHAIRMAN stated that in view of the request from Morocco, he would consult with the officers of the Committee and the parties concerned and report to the Committee at the following meeting.

62. Mr. WALLACE (United States of America) stated that the draft resolution contained in document A/C.4/50/L.6 involved a fundamental change in the attitude of the United Nations towards the twelve Territories under consideration in the omnibus resolution, and suggested postponing discussion of the resolution until Friday, 3 November 1995 at the earliest.

63. The CHAIRMAN stated that he would take that suggestion under consideration, consult the officers of the Committee and inform the Committee of his decision at the next meeting.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FIFTIETH SESSION

Official Records

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND
DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE
(FOURTH COMMITTEE)
14th meeting
held on
Friday, 3 November 1995
at 10 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 14th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MUTHAURA (Kenya)

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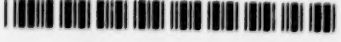

The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (Territories not covered under other agenda items) (continued) (A/50/23 (part III), chap. VI, para. 14; A/C.4/50/L.6)

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AGENDA ITEM 91: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued) (A/C.4/50/L.4)

1. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to document A/C.4/50/L.8 containing a list of the draft resolutions, decisions and amendments before the Committee.

Draft resolution contained in document A/50/23 (part IV), chapter VIII, paragraph 8, and submitted under agenda item 88

2. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia,

Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

3. The draft resolution was adopted by 121 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

4. Mr. ARKWRIGHT (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had, as in previous years, abstained on the draft resolution. His country would, of course, continue to comply with its obligations in respect of the British dependent Territories under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. His delegation did not agree with the statement in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution that it was for the General Assembly to decide when a Non-Self-Governing territory had reached a level of self-government sufficient to relieve the administering Power of the obligation to submit information under Article 73 e of the Charter. Such decisions must be left to the Government of the Territory concerned and the administering Power.

5. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of item 88.

Document A/C.4/50/L.7

6. Mr. PÉREZ-GRIFFO (Spain), speaking on behalf of the European Union, introduced the amendments (A/C.4/50/L.7) to the draft resolution contained in paragraph 16 of chapter V of document A/50/23 (part III). As the Committee was aware, some members of the European Union, and in some cases the Union as a whole, had voted in the past against certain resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the Committee. That had been negatively perceived by some delegations. The States members of the European Union considered that foreign investment in Non-Self-Governing Territories did not necessarily have a negative impact on those Territories. On the contrary, if done in a sensible way and in consultation with the peoples of the Territories, it often had very positive effects. Accordingly, the countries of the European Union, endeavouring to give a more positive tone to the draft resolution, were proposing a number of amendments.

7. Mr. BANGURA (Sierra Leone), speaking as Acting Chairman of the Special Committee and referring to his statement in the general debate in the Fourth Committee on the question of decolonization, said that the Special Committee had a clear mandate with respect to the Non-Self-Governing Territories which it had faithfully and diligently fulfilled. The Special Committee had undeniably scored outstanding success in promoting the exercise by the peoples of colonial Territories of their fundamental right to self-determination and independence. Its mission, however, remained unaccomplished. The Committee constantly

reviewed its approach and rationalized its working methods, making appropriate adjustments in the light of changing international circumstances.

8. Of late, the Special Committee had been noticeably more practical, flexible and innovative in its work, as reflected in its recommendations to the Fourth Committee. Paramount attention was always given to the interests and needs of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Indeed, the General Assembly itself, in proclaiming the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, had set itself the goal of achieving total decolonization by the year 2000. In that connection, the Special Committee had repeatedly stressed the importance of the cooperation and the participation of the administering Powers in activities to promote the attainment of that noble aim. Recognizing that the views of the peoples of those Territories, as well as of their Governments, offered the most authoritative source of information for the identification of the specific needs of Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Special Committee had consistently encouraged those peoples and Governments to participate in its work.

9. Acknowledging the importance of the sustained social and economic development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories as an essential precondition for the meaningful exercise of their right to self-determination and independence, the Special Committee had assiduously sought the adoption of specific measures to promote such development and had welcomed the cooperation of the administering Powers and the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

10. The Special Committee was ready to work with the administering Powers in a spirit of constructive cooperation and believed, in that context, that visiting missions offered the best means of obtaining first-hand information on the conditions and problems confronting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee hoped that the administering Powers would respond positively to its initiatives and to the goodwill extended to them.

11. Turning to the amendments in document A/C.4/50/L.7, he said that the Special Committee was prepared to accept those contained in paragraphs 2 (a), (b) and (c), in paragraph 7, in paragraphs 12 (a) and (b), in paragraph 13 (a), in paragraph 14 (a), in paragraphs 15 (a) and (b), in paragraphs 16 (a) and (b) and in paragraph 19 (a). As for the amendments in document A/C.4/50/L.6, the Special Committee was prepared to accept those pertaining to draft resolution B.3 on Bermuda, and noted that, even without those amendments, it would accept the reality reflected in the results of the referendum; to paragraph 1 of draft resolution B.6 on Guam; and to paragraph 2 of draft resolution B.12 relating to the United States Virgin Islands.

12. In its consideration of the item on the activities of foreign economic and other interests, the proposals submitted in the Special Committee had been adopted without a vote and the omnibus resolution had been adopted by consensus. In addition, at its recent Conference of Heads of State or Government, held in Cartagena, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries had proclaimed the abiding importance of the right of all peoples to self-determination; had welcomed the accession to independence and statehood of peoples which had previously languished under the yoke of foreign and colonial domination; and had, yet again, reaffirmed its commitment to the attainment of the goals of the early

elimination of colonialism on the basis of the implementation of the plan of action for the International Decade for the Elimination of Colonialism, in fulfilment of the aspirations of peoples and in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly and the provisions of the Charter.

13. Mr. FORERO (Colombia), speaking on behalf of his country, which was presiding over the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that the Movement attached great importance to decolonization, since many of its members had previously been colonies and had gained their independence largely thanks to the work of the Special Committee. At their Conference in October 1995 in Cartagena, the heads of State or Government of non-aligned countries had firmly stated the Movement's position on issues of decolonization and had noted that the process was still not complete. For that reason, his delegation appealed to members of the Movement to bear in mind the declaration adopted at Cartagena when casting their votes.

14. Mr. SAMANA (Papua New Guinea), speaking as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, welcomed the statement by the representative of Sierra Leone and said that, in the interests of cooperation, it would be advisable, before amendments to drafts were tabled for consideration, to discuss them at meetings of the Committee. The amendments under consideration were not designed to improve the quality of the original draft; they substantially altered the sense of provisions which had been considered, formulated and adopted by the Committee as a whole. For example, it was not appropriate to change the title, since the object of the Committee's consideration was precisely the activities of foreign economic and other interests which impeded the implementation of the Declaration, and it was not concerned with any activity which did not impede that process. Noting that the prevailing atmosphere in the Committee had changed, he stressed the need to develop cooperation between the administering Powers and the Committee, so as to ensure protection for the interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned based on the principles of the United Nations. He said that he opposed the proposed amendments.

15. Mr. NÚÑEZ MOSQUERA (Cuba), speaking as Deputy Chairman of the Special Committee and on behalf of the members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that his delegation would vote against nearly all the amendments proposed in documents A/C.4/50/L.6 and L.7, since they pertained not to the form, but to the substance of the issue and altered the sense of the report of the Special Committee, while some of them even cast doubt on the need for the very existence of that Committee.

16. At the same time, the efforts by certain administering Powers to use the Fourth Committee as a means of making changes to the Special Committee's report were quite unacceptable. Under the Charter, the administering Powers were obliged to cooperate with the Special Committee and he appealed to them for such cooperation. For the reasons he had stated, Cuba would vote against most of the amendments and would abstain from the vote on certain of the amendments, in the interests of showing some flexibility.

17. Mr. CHTCHERBAK (Russian Federation) commended the delegation of Spain for the amendments which it had submitted on behalf of the European Union. The Russian Federation, which had been a member of the Special Committee since its

inception, supported those amendments, which were constructive in nature, took account of the specific features of decolonization at the current stage and would substantially improve the draft resolution, which, in his delegation's opinion, was greatly outdated.

18. His delegation was pleased to see that many of those amendments were in line with suggestions put forward by the Russian Federation in the Special Committee. The Russian Federation was convinced that the adoption of those amendments would respond to the needs of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories and would promote the establishment of conditions for their sustainable social and economic development, thereby speeding up the decolonization process. In addition, they could provide a sound basis for the adoption by the Fourth Committee of a consensus draft resolution on that issue.

19. Mr. BIRENBAUM (United States of America) also supported the amendments submitted by Spain on behalf of the European Union. He said that the United States considered that adoption of those amendments would make it possible to react in the best manner to the new realities in the world situation and in the work of the Committee. In current circumstances, where practically all developing countries welcomed foreign investments and foreign economic activities, it was surprising that the Committee was still holding on to the old ideas concerning such activities. Adoption of the amendments would be a very constructive step, demonstrating an awareness of the new realities of the modern world and a desire to abandon traditional rhetoric regarding foreign investments.

20. Mr. MWAMBULUKUTU (United Republic of Tanzania) said that, as a member of the Special Committee, Tanzania had always regarded it as essential to cooperate with the United Nations and the administering Powers in adopting the appropriate methods of tackling all questions concerning decolonization. Tanzania was concerned about the refusal of some administering Powers to take part in the work of the Special Committee.

21. A great deal had been done to bring that work into line with the current situation, as the administering Powers which had cooperated with the Committee could confirm.

22. As for the proposed amendments, he said that if they had been submitted for consideration by the Special Committee, discussion of them would have been more effective. His delegation was concerned that there were a multiplicity of interpretations of the Committee's mandate.

23. Tanzania hoped that countries aspiring to see an end to decolonization by the year 2000 would join it in working actively in the Fourth Committee in the year ahead.

24. Mr. AL-ATTAR (Syrian Arab Republic) said that, before the vote, his delegation wished to state that the proposed amendments did not correspond to General Assembly resolutions on the elimination of colonialism. They were contrary to articles of the Charter of the United Nations, and his delegation called on all countries to vote against them, as they were not the result of the work of the Special Committee.

25. Mr. MACEDO (Mexico), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that his delegation would prefer countries wishing to introduce substantive amendments to recommendations of the Special Committee to do so at the appropriate time, during discussions in the Special Committee. Mexico considered inappropriate their decision to raise in the Fourth Committee matters causing them concern in order to reconsider the decisions of the Special Committee and place the results of its discussions in doubt.

26. His delegation supported the Special Committee's decisions on the amendments submitted and would vote against those that aimed to alter the substance of and substantially distort the Special Committee's decisions and recommendations. Mexico called on countries which had submitted amendments to address themselves in future to the Special Committee and explain their problems in that forum so as to avoid such situations arising again.

27. Mr. JELBAN (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that the amendments proposed by Spain on behalf of the European Union had been submitted without prior consultation with the Special Committee. Their purpose was to hamper the work of the Special Committee and to deprive peoples of the right to self-determination and independence. For those reasons his delegation would vote against all the amendments submitted.

28. Mr. AL-HASSAN (Oman), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that his delegation did not usually take part in the discussion of amendments which had not been considered by the Special Committee, but at the current session it was prepared to support some of those amendments for the very reason that they had been accepted by the Special Committee. As usual, his delegation considered that the best way of solving questions related to amendments was through constructive dialogue with the Special Committee.

Amendment in paragraph 1 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

29. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua

New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia.

30. The amendment was rejected by 55 votes to 48, with 22 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 2 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

31. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment in paragraph 2 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

32. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment in paragraph 2 (c) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

33. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment in paragraph 2 (d) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

34. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia.

35. The amendment was rejected by 60 votes to 47, with 15 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 3 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

36. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jamaica, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia.

37. The amendment was rejected by 55 votes to 46, with 24 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 4 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

38. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation,

Slovakia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand.

39. The amendment was rejected by 61 votes to 49, with 17 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 5 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

40. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago.

41. The amendment was rejected by 52 votes to 47, with 22 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 6 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

42. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand.

43. The amendment was rejected by 60 votes to 48, with 15 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 7 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

44. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment in paragraph 8 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

45. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland,

France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay.

46. The amendment was rejected by 51 votes to 47, with 23 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 10 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

47. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and

Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jordan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia.

48. The amendment was rejected by 59 votes to 44, with 17 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 10 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

49. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bahamas, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand.

50. The amendment was rejected by 64 votes to 47, with 14 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 10 (c) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

51. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein,

Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jordan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia.

52. The amendment was rejected by 60 votes to 46, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment in paragraph 11 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

53. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo,

Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand.

54. The amendment was rejected by 60 votes to 46, with 14 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 12 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

55. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 12 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

56. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand.

57. The amendment was rejected by 61 votes to 48, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 12 (c) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

58. The amendment was adopted without a vote. Amendment contained in paragraph 12 (d) of document A/C.4/50/L.7.

59. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname.

60. The amendment was rejected by 59 votes to 49, with 15 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 13 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

61. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 13 (b) of A/C.4/50/L.7

62. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand.

63. The amendment was rejected by 62 votes to 47, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 13 (c) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

64. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jordan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay.

65. The amendment was rejected by 59 votes to 46, with 18 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 14 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

66. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 14 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

67. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand.

68. The amendment was rejected by 62 votes to 47, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 15 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

69. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 15 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

70. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland,

Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand.

71. The amendment was rejected by 62 votes to 47, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 15 (c) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

72. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 16 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

73. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 16 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

74. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 17 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

75. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,

Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Kazakstan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand.

76. The amendment was rejected by 62 votes to 44, with 17 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 18 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

77. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Jamaica, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago.

78. The amendment was rejected by 61 votes to 46, with 17 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 19 (a) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

79. The amendment was adopted without a vote.

Amendment contained in paragraph 19 (b) of document A/C.4/50/L.7

80. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand.

81. The proposal was rejected by 65 votes to 46, with 13 abstentions.

Amendment contained in paragraph 20 of document A/C.4/50/L.7

82. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France,

Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, Kazakstan, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand.

83. The proposal was rejected by 64 votes to 44, with 16 abstentions.

84. The meeting was suspended at 12.10 p.m. and resumed at 12.20 p.m.

85. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution contained in paragraph 16 of chapter V of document A/50/23 (Part III) as a whole, as amended.

In favour: Algeria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France,

Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Morocco, Philippines.

86. The draft resolution was adopted by 70 votes to 41, with 4 abstentions*.

Draft decision contained in document A/50/23 (Part III), chapter VI, paragraph 14

87. A recorded vote was taken on the draft decision.

In favour: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Morocco, New Zealand.

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* The delegation of Oman and the Sudan subsequently informed the Committee that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution, and the delegations of Malta and Slovenia that they had intended to vote against.

88. The draft decision was adopted by 76 votes to 40, with 3 abstentions*.

89. Mr. ROWE (Australia) said that his delegation had been unable to support the draft decision on military activities and arrangements by the colonial Powers in Territories under their administration, since the wording of the draft was not substantially different from the wording that had been used at previous sessions of the General Assembly. With respect to paragraph 4 of the decision, Australia was strongly opposed to nuclear testing by any State anywhere.

90. Mr. CHTCHERBAK (Russian Federation) said that his delegation had voted against the draft decision since it considered that the draft required substantial revision. Concrete and constructive approaches should be adopted, and accounts should be taken of the real needs of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. His delegation was prepared to give its active support to any efforts to that end with a view to ensuring the speedy completion of the decolonization process.

91. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 89.

Draft resolution contained in document A/50/23 (Part IV), chapter VII, paragraph 14

92. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution.

In favour: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

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* The delegations of Oman and the Sudan subsequently informed the Committee that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft decision, and the delegations of Malta and Slovenia that they had intended to vote against.

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

93. The draft resolution was adopted by 91 votes to none, with 43 abstentions.

94. Mr. PÉREZ-GRIFFO (Spain), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the countries of the European Union reaffirmed their support for the assistance that the specialized agencies had given to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in various fields. At the same time, they regretted that the draft decision on "military activities" forced the European Union once again to restate its objections to the draft, since that issue was not included in the list of agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Fourth Committee. The European Union's remarks on the current drafts had not been taken into account, and that was why the countries of the European Union had abstained in the vote on the draft resolution on agenda item 90 and had voted against the draft resolution on agenda item 18.

95. With regard to agenda item 89, the European Union welcomed the efforts towards moderation in the draft resolution and took note of the reference in the preamble to the contribution that foreign economic investment could make to the socio-economic development of those Territories. In the opinion of the European Union, the absence of a clear distinction between useful and harmful economic activities, as well as the implications that all foreign investment was inherently harmful, represented a serious shortcoming of the draft resolution, and the European Union had therefore introduced some amendments with a view to correcting those shortcomings. While the countries of the European Union were grateful that several of those amendments had been approved, they regretted that the Committee had not supported all of their amendments. The European Union had been therefore forced, once again, to vote against the draft. It hoped, nevertheless, that its position would be taken into account when the Committee prepared next year's draft resolution.

96. Mr. KIRKLAND (United States of America) said that his delegation recognized the obligations of the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the particular difficulties that they encountered in carrying out those obligations in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and would have supported the draft had it not linked the work of the specialized agencies to activities involved in the implementation of the Declaration. That was unnecessary, since the times for such linkage were long past.

97. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 90.

Draft resolution contained in document A/C.4/50/L.4

98. The CHAIRMAN announced that Australia and Sweden had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

99. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote.

100. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 91.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FIFTIETH SESSION

Official Records

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)
15th meeting
held on
Friday, 3 November 1995
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 15th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MUTHAURA (Kenya)

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REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS

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The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (Territories not covered under other agenda items) (continued) (A/50/23 (Parts V and VI), A/C.4/50/L.3, L.5/Rev.1, L.6 and L.8)

1. Mr. MUSTAFA (Secretary of the Committee), reporting on the programme budget implications of various provisions of the draft resolutions before the Committee, said with reference to paragraphs 3 and 7 of draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1 on Western Sahara, taken in conjunction with the Secretary-General's report (S/1995/779) and Security Council resolution 1017 (1995), that the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) was financed under a separate assessment, so that if the existing deployment and staffing of the Mission were maintained it would have no financial implications for the regular budget. Furthermore, the activities referred to in paragraph 10 of the draft resolution had no additional financial implications because they were programmed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 under section 2.C.2, General Assembly affairs, as part of programme 4, subprogramme 3, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised, under the headings "International cooperation" and "Parliamentary services".

2. With regard to the draft resolution on the question of New Caledonia in document A/50/23 (Part V), chapter IX, paragraph 30, and the omnibus draft resolution in document A/50/23 (Part VI), chapter X, paragraph 25, he said that on the basis of prior programme performance over several bienniums, it was estimated that the cost of implementing the recommendations in those two resolutions would be covered by resources programmed under section 2.A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, and additional provisions would therefore not be required.

Draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1 on the question of Western Sahara

3. The CHAIRMAN announced that Haiti had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

4. Mr. SNOUSSI (Morocco) observed that as the party primarily involved in safeguarding the wishes of the population of Western Sahara, Morocco had been the one to ask that a referendum should be held and had always cooperated fully with the settlement plan, as attested to by successive reports of the Secretary-General. Again at the current session, however, one delegation had, without consulting Morocco, submitted a draft resolution that departed from the Security Council resolutions on Western Sahara.

5. He proposed that the informal amendments to draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1 that his delegation was about to submit to the Chairman should be included in the text in order to give it balance. He appealed to the Chairman to use his good offices to convince the sponsors to accept Morocco's amendments.

6. Mr. SRIWIDJAJA (Indonesia) seconded Morocco's proposal, in the interests of finding a solution acceptable to all.

7. Mr. LAMANRA (Algeria) said that, contrary to the Moroccan delegation's contention that it had not been contacted regarding the draft resolution under consideration, some of the sponsors, upon receiving through the most unofficial channels the so-called informal amendments just referred to, had in a constructive spirit offered some subamendments that had, through intermediaries, in fact been accepted by Morocco.

8. The draft resolution as it now stood was a very balanced one that did not tilt towards either party. The sponsors were anxious that it should be adopted by consensus, for the text set out basic principles and put the authority of the General Assembly solidly behind the Secretary-General and the Security Council in the hope of bringing the settlement process in Western Sahara to a close by the deadline of 31 January 1996. If the peace process was not saved, a conflict could be unleashed on Algeria's borders. Algeria, acting as a spokesman for the other party which was unable to speak for itself, asked the Chairman not to give in to the reluctance of one of the parties to cooperate. The draft resolution before the Committee protected the rights of the Saharan people and safeguarded peace in the region.

9. Mr. GNEHM (United States of America) said that his delegation believed the issue should be settled in a way that furthered the peace process and avoided confrontation. The United States had tried to help build consensus around the draft resolution on Western Sahara at both the current and previous sessions, but had failed because of the unwillingness of one side to make very modest adjustments to a text. No matter how late the hour, his delegation felt there was a need for someone like the Chairman to see that consensus was achieved. The parties were close enough that it could be done without acrimony and without sacrificing principle. In view of Algeria's recognition of the utmost importance of consensus, of the need to save the peace process and of the critical juncture there could be no reason for it to object to having the Chairman use his good offices to bridge the gap.

10. Mr. TURK (Slovenia) said that he had become a sponsor of the very important draft resolution on Western Sahara on the understanding that it would be a consensus resolution. He urged that every effort should be made to agree on a consensus text.

11. Mr. DELAUNAY (France), supported by Mr. CISSE (Senegal), proposed that the meeting should be suspended briefly for consultations aimed at achieving consensus, which seemed within reach.

12. The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 4.20 p.m.

13. Mr. MWAKAWAGO (United Republic of Tanzania), introducing the draft resolution on the question of Western Sahara (A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1), said that he wished, after brief consultations with the parties directly involved, to submit a revision which was supported by the sponsors and the entire Committee. The revision consisted of a new twelfth preambular paragraph, to read as follows:

"Expressing the hope for a rapid resolution of the problems causing delays in the completion of the identification process, as well as the code of conduct, the release of political prisoners, the confinement of troops of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro and the arrangements for the reduction of the Moroccan troops in the territory,".

14. The draft resolution had the following sponsors: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Burundi, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Rwanda, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

15. The Committee had consistently followed with particular interest the question of Western Sahara; indeed, it had ensured the efforts aimed at restoring peace in Western Sahara through the joint good offices of the Secretary-General and the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity. It had also supported from the start the settlement plan accepted by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro (Frente POLISARIO), which still faced problems in the way of its early implementation. It was in that spirit that the sponsors of the draft resolution had adopted a constructive approach with the aim of reaffirming full support for the implementation of the settlement plan based on Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991). The large number of sponsors illustrated the merit of that approach and the desire of the international community to arrive at a just and lasting solution to the question.

16. Under the draft resolution, the General Assembly would express the hope that direct talks between the parties would resume shortly in order to create a climate conducive to a speedy and effective implementation of the plan. The draft was intended to give a decisive impetus to the process. To that end it should be adopted by consensus. Such a consensus would, he trusted, encourage all the parties concerned to implement the settlement plan fully, for the sake of peace and stability in the region.

17. Mr. SNOUSSI (Morocco) said that his delegation, while maintaining the reservations it had previously expressed, would not oppose the adoption of the draft resolution without a vote. It attached great importance to the new preambular paragraph, which indicated that the delays in the identification process constituted a serious obstacle to progress. The other additions were also justified, although the bulk of the problems listed in the new paragraph would cease to be relevant when the transition period was over.

18. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.5/Rev.1, as further orally revised, without a vote.

19. It was so decided.

20. Mr. SNOUSSI (Morocco) said that the question of Sahara took up too much of the Committee's time and energy, giving rise to a mountain of paper in United Nations archives, without giving anything to the Saharan people. The aim of the referendum was to provide them with the means of self-determination, but for 20 years they had not been able to express their will: Morocco would believe that success had been achieved only when Saharans were able to return across the border and vote.

21. The Secretary-General had made it clear that the process had been held up - for 23 months - by the Frente POLISARIO, whose obstructionist attitude discredited the United Nations. Morocco had given the other side every chance for dialogue, but it had not had the courage or responsibility to accept. A settlement plan existed and should proceed, despite the lies that had been disseminated. It was Morocco that had wanted the referendum, not the Frente POLISARIO. Morocco would continue to support the Secretary-General in discharging his mission in the region.

Draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.3 on the question of Gibraltar

22. The draft resolution was adopted.

Draft resolution on the question of New Caledonia in document A/50/23 (Part V), chapter IX, paragraph 30

23. The draft resolution was adopted.

Omnibus draft resolution on the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands (A/50/23 (Part VI), chap. 10, para. 25, A/C.4/50/L.6)

24. Mr. ARKWRIGHT (United Kingdom), introducing the amendments to the omnibus draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom and the United States of America in document A/C.4/50/L.6, said that they were being proposed in a positive spirit, prompted by the recognition that times had changed and that the Committee should set aside the outdated perception of an oppressive colonial domination in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that had coloured its debates for too long. Although the Chairman of the Special Committee had at the previous meeting welcomed innovative responses to the new world situation, he had unfortunately not found it possible to accept the amendments.

25. The proposed use of the term "the Territories" in various paragraphs of draft resolution A was intended to clarify the point that the resolution applied only to the 12 Territories in the title, and to streamline the text, ridding it of unnecessary duplications.

26. The amendment to the thirteenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A (para. 7 of document A/C.4/50/L.6) was self-explanatory, and the Special Committee's objection mystified him. The key addition there was the reference to free and fair elections conducted by the Governments of the Territories; surely no one could disagree that elections were an appropriate means of ascertaining the people's wishes.

27. The amendment to the fourteenth preambular paragraph reinforced the point that there were means of ascertaining the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories other than through visiting missions.

28. The amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 9 (a)) emphasized that not all Member States approved the Committee's recommendations.

29. With reference to the amendment to operative paragraph 2 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 10), there was no reason for singling out independence as an option for the Non-Self-Governing Territories; another option could be to maintain the status quo. The amendment to operative paragraph 3 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 11 (b)) underlined that point.

30. The amendment to operative paragraph 4 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 12) reflected the point made earlier about "free and fair elections conducted by the Governments of the territories". It appeared from comments made that the Special Committee believed that the administering Powers felt an obligation to report to it. Under the Charter of the United Nations, however, the administering Powers reported to the Secretary-General. Where the second part of the amendment (para. 4 bis) was concerned, he believed that the Committee would welcome the proposal.

31. The amendment to operative paragraph 5 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 13) mirrored the fourteenth preambular paragraph in the original text of the Special Committee.

32. The amendment to former operative paragraph 12 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 17) constituted a straightforward request for the Special Committee to report to the General Assembly and gave it a clearly defined role.

33. The amendments to draft resolution B were self-explanatory. The amendment to draft resolution B.1 was reflected elsewhere for Anguilla and the Virgin Islands and contained a request to the administering Power to respond to the wishes of the people of the Territory in question.

34. The key point of all the proposed amendments was that it was for the people of the Territories to decide on their own future. He therefore urged the Committee to support those amendments.

35. Mr. BANGURA (Sierra Leone), speaking as Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on decolonization, said that the Special Committee had an undiminished commitment to carrying out its mandate, which included the determination of the conditions and problems confronting peoples and their overall concerns. Wherever the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was relevant, the Special Committee was ready to provide illumination and to implement it to the full in a spirit of respect for the inalienable right to self-determination and independence.

36. The Special Committee had put forward the draft resolution before the Committee following careful and dispassionate consideration. If it was unable to accept the proposed amendments, that was because it had implored the administering Powers to address those issues at its July meeting. On that

occasion they had not felt able to engage in discussions with the Special Committee, and it was only at the eleventh hour that the latter had been confronted with the amendments contained in document A/C.4/50/L.6, which, had they been considered in July, would have brought about a meeting of minds. The Special Committee therefore felt unable to accept the amendments, in the hope that the administering Powers would still agree to join it in considering the draft resolution.

37. Mr. SAMANA (Papua New Guinea) said that, as a member of the Special Committee and in his personal capacity as Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Small Territories, he wished to state his Government's deep regret that the proposed amendments to the omnibus resolution (A/50/23, part VI), if adopted, would in effect render the Special Committee defunct. The majority of the amendments proposed were substantive, and if adopted could seriously undermine the work of the Special Committee.

38. His Government was prepared to participate in reforming the work of the Special Committee in order to streamline its operations and save costs, but not at the cost of undermining the principles and goals mandated by the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions pertaining to the implementation of the Declaration on the eradication of all remnants of colonialism, which the greater part of the proposed amendments seemed to do. Any move to reform administrative and institutional arrangements, including procedures and specific functions mandated by the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, should be undertaken with proper consultation, cooperation and acceptance by all Member States of the United Nations.

39. The fulfilment of the international obligations of Member States under Chapters XI, XII and XIII of the Charter rested on the effective cooperation of all Members, and particularly of those cooperating with the Special Committee with a view to meeting the aspirations of the peoples of Territories under colonial administration. In recent years all the administering Powers, with the exception of New Zealand, had failed to cooperate with the Committee. His delegation suggested that the Administering Authorities concerned should work together with the Special Committee, particularly as its work had become more responsive to the realities of the new international climate.

40. Turning to the amendments before the Committee, he said that as they stood, most of the amendments ran counter to the spirit and intent of General Assembly resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, entitled "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", and the Plan of Action contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/46/634/Rev.1). His delegation would not support the proposal in the amendment to the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A to delete references to previous General Assembly resolutions upon which the Special Committee based its work. The decisions of the General Assembly should be respected and reflected in resolutions pertaining to the decolonization process.

41. His delegation strongly opposed the amendment to the thirteenth preambular paragraph because in the case of New Caledonia there could be no such thing as free and fair elections in a Territory that was economically and politically

controlled by the metropolitan Power, which also controlled immigration laws in a deliberate attempt to change the balance of the population in order to marginalize those in favour of independence. That fact deprived the Committee of its role in ascertaining the concerns of the people.

42. Referring to the amendment to operative paragraph 2, he said that all options, including the option for independence, should remain; his delegation therefore requested all delegations to support the retention of the word "independence".

43. The proposed amendment to operative paragraph 3 was a subtle way of redefining the meaning of the paragraph by entertaining options other than those defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV). Such options were outside the current mandate: for them to be considered, the Committee would first have to propose that the General Assembly should consider and approve them.

44. The proposed amendment to operative paragraph 4 again gave a completely different meaning to the principles guiding the process of decolonization, by proposing that the Administering Authorities should report directly to the Secretary-General, without any reference to the mandate of the General Assembly exercised through its appropriate committees. His delegation rejected the amendment because it dispersed with the elements of check and balance and transparency in monitoring intended to ensure that the process of decolonization was not undertaken at the whim of the Administering Authorities.

45. Mr. KEATING (New Zealand) said that his Government, as an administering Power, had a direct interest in the draft resolution. It was important to draw attention to the fact that no amendment had been proposed regarding Tokelau, precisely because of the productive work done by his delegation together with members of the Committee in agreeing on language to be incorporated in the draft which would meet the concerns of the Special Committee. His delegation regretted that members were faced with voting on elements of the resolution; because of the way the resolution was constructed, so that section A was a chapeau to the rest of the resolution, the amendments to it also had a bearing on Tokelau. His Government had therefore found it necessary to express its reservations.

46. His Government was, however, willing to explore the possibility of a constructive middle ground, and did support some of the amendments. It agreed with the representative of Papua New Guinea that there were some inconsistencies in United Nations practice regarding self-determination. He did not believe that the gap between the Special Committee and the sponsors of the draft amendments was unbridgeable; common ground should have been found.

47. The representative of the United Kingdom had drawn attention to the important role of free and fair elections. His delegation was the first to agree that such processes played a critical role in determining eventual political status. However, they were a necessary, but not always a sufficient, condition, whereas the language in the draft amendments implied that they were a sufficient condition. Such problems could have been resolved in advance, and he hoped that next year the Committee would do better in that regard.

48. Mr. NUÑEZ MOSQUERA (Cuba), speaking on a point of order, asked whether delegations proposing amendments could give explanations of vote.

49. Mr. BIRENBAUN (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, said that what delegations had been listening to had indeed been explanations of vote; he found that situation hard to comprehend, particularly in the case of the sponsors of the draft resolution.

50. He hoped that members would consider and support the amendments contained in document A/C.4/50/L.6, in order to bring about a more realistic appraisal of the situation in 11 of the 12 territories under consideration. The twelfth, Tokelau, was in the process of deciding on its future status under the guidance of its administering Power, New Zealand, and the Special Committee. The amendments therefore had no impact on that process.

51. The peoples of the 11 Non-Self-Governing Territories under consideration had attained a "full measure of self-government" as required under article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations and had freely determined their political status, as required under the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The draft amendments before the Committee set the stage for recognizing those facts. While the amendments themselves did not address the question of whether the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories had attained a full measure of self-government, and while they did not alter the commitment of Member States under the Charter to the principle of self-determination, they offered the prospect of a more realistic appraisal of the situation in those Territories, which all members of the Committee should welcome. Adoption of the amendments and consensus adoption of the omnibus resolution would mark an important step towards the common goal of implementing fully the Declaration on Decolonization. The United States would then be prepared to give relevant information to the Secretary-General on the grounds that it would be useful for the appraisal of the situation in Territories where it was the Administering Authority.

52. Amendments had been proposed to the Special Committee in July but they had been received in a way which had not encouraged submission of the amendments currently being proposed. He urged that a matter of such fundamental importance should not be resolved on the basis of procedural considerations.

53. The spokesman for the Special Committee had acknowledged that if more time had been available to consider the amendments, agreement could have been reached; there was no difference between the proposals put forward by the sponsors of the amendments and what the Special Committee would accept. He suggested that on the matter of procedure the Committee should defer consideration of the amendments for another year, and submitted that the current situation was not the appropriate way for the Committee to function.

54. The core of what the sponsors of the amendments thought was contained in amendment 7, concerning the thirteenth preambular paragraph, which recognized "that the wishes of the peoples in the Territories with regard to their political status can be ascertained by referendums and other forms of popular consultation, including free and fair elections conducted by the Governments of the Territories." While that proposal was indisputable, it was not exclusive

nor did it suggest that if elections were not free because of action by the Administering Authority their results must be accepted.

55. The suggestion had been made that the sponsors were trying to depart from the principles of the Charter of the United Nations with respect to arrangements for reporting to the Secretary-General, although the Charter did not refer to the Committee by name. The sponsors were prepared to provide information encompassing all possibilities contemplated by the Charter with reference to self-determination. The relevant operative language referred to three possible routes to the attainment of a full measure of self-government. The sponsors did not seek to deny that independence was one of those routes.

56. Rather than attempt to address all the issues, he wished to point out that the general issue at stake was whether the Special Committee could be made to function and not whether it would be prevented from functioning. It could function if the amendments were adopted, in which case it would be possible for the United States and other Administering Authorities to provide the relevant information to be submitted to the Secretary-General. If the Special Committee were not willing to take that step, it would find itself locked in the patterns of the past, whereas its intention was to move forward and leave the polarized discussions of the past behind. The best way to do so was to adopt the amendments so that information could be provided to the Secretary-General that would be useful for a realistic appraisal of the situation and would allow the impasse in the Special Committee's operations to be broken.

57. Mr. NUÑEZ MOSQUERA (Cuba) said that his delegation, as Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee on Decolonization, supported the comments of the representatives of Sierra Leone and Papua New Guinea. He asked why, if times really had changed, the administering Powers continued to deny the right of Territories to self-determination and why they did not cooperate with the Special Committee, as New Zealand did. He wondered how one could talk of free and fair elections in small Territories in which there was an intimidating military presence. The Special Committee had shown itself to be flexible in discussions on the draft resolution, but it could only be effective if it received full information from the administering Powers. Cuba therefore opposed the amendments.

58. Mr. CHTCHERBAK (Russian Federation), speaking as a member of the Special Committee on Decolonization, said that the text of the draft resolution was an improvement on previous versions, but it was never too late to incorporate further improvements. Many of the proposed amendments were constructive, and would benefit the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories and speed up the process of decolonization.

59. Mr. JELBAN (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said his delegation opposed the amendments proposed by the Administering Powers, as they would effectively terminate the work of the Special Committee and deny the rights of peoples to independence and self-government.

Draft resolution A - general

Amendment to the first preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 1 (a))

60. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Burundi, Cyprus, Egypt, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Swaziland.

61. The amendment was adopted by 65 votes to 38, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment to the first preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 1 (b))

62. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey,

Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Togo.

63. The amendment was adopted by 58 votes to 43, with 20 abstentions.

Amendment to the fourth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 2)

64. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cyprus, Estonia, Haiti, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan,

Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia.

65. The amendment was rejected by 61 votes to 41, with 24 abstentions.

Amendment to the fifth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 3)

66. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Burundi, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Swaziland, Uruguay.

67. The amendment was adopted by 56 votes to 50, with 20 abstentions.

Amendment to the seventh preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 4)

68. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation,

Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

69. The amendment was adopted by 61 votes to 47, with 15 abstentions.

Amendment to the ninth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 5)

70. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Burundi, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Portugal, Rwanda.

71. The amendment was adopted by 56 votes to 52, with 18 abstentions.

Amendment to the twelfth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 6)

72. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Portugal, Sri Lanka.

73. The amendment was adopted by 59 votes to 49, with 14 abstentions.

Amendment to the thirteenth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 7)

74. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia.

75. The amendment was rejected by 48 votes to 46, with 33 abstentions.

Amendment to the fourteenth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 8(a))

76. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo.

77. The amendment was adopted by 55 votes to 41, with 25 abstentions.

Amendment to the fourteenth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 8 (b)).

78. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Burundi, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Thailand.

79. The amendment was adopted by 56 votes to 50, with 19 abstentions.

Amendment to the fourteenth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6 para. 8 (c))

80. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland,

Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo.

81. The amendment was adopted by 59 votes to 47, with 17 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 9 (a))

82. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda,

United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand.

83. The amendment was rejected by 53 votes to 48, with 26 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 9 (b))

84. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Suriname, Thailand, Togo.

85. The amendment was adopted by 58 votes to 43, with 20 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 9 (c))

86. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi,

Cambodia, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.

87. The amendment was adopted by 59 votes to 46, with 17 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 2 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 10 (a))

88. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal,

Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand.

89. The amendment was adopted by 58 votes to 47, with 16 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 2 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 10 (b))

90. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cyprus, Estonia, Haiti, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Tunisia.

91. The amendment was rejected by 61 votes to 38, with 26 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 3 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 11 (a))

92. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark,

Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Suriname.

93. The amendment was adopted by 62 votes to 39, with 18 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 3 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 11 (b))

94. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Burundi, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Singapore, Slovenia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

95. The amendment was rejected by 51 votes to 45, with 29 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 4 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 12)

96. A recorded vote was taken on new paragraph 4.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Estonia, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, Tunisia.

97. The amendment was rejected by 59 votes to 41, with 26 abstentions.

98. A recorded vote was taken on new paragraph 4 bis.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, Tunisia.

99. The amendment was rejected by 57 votes to 40, with 27 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 5 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 13)

100. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia.

101. The amendment was rejected by 55 votes to 47, with 24 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 6 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 14)

102. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nepal, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Suriname.

103. The amendment was adopted by 61 votes to 40, with 19 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 7 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 15)

104. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian

Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cyprus, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Slovenia, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Uruguay.

105. The amendment was rejected by 51 votes to 46, with 25 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 9 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 16)

106. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Estonia, Guyana, Haiti, Japan, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, Tunisia.

107. The amendment was rejected by 60 votes to 35, with 32 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 12 (A/C.4/50/L.6, para. 17)

108. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Thailand.

109. The amendment was rejected by 55 votes to 48, with 24 abstentions.

Draft resolution B.1 - American Samoa

Amendment to paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

110. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia,

Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia.

111. The amendment was rejected by 50 votes to 45, with 29 abstentions.

Draft resolution B.2 - Anguilla

Amendment to paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

112. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab

Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine.

113. The amendment was rejected by 53 votes to 44, with 30 abstentions.

Amendments to draft resolution B.3 - Bermuda (A/C.4/50/L.6)

114. The amendments were adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution B.4 - British Virgin Islands

Amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

115. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal,

Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine.

116. The amendment was rejected by 52 votes to 43, with 31 abstentions.

Draft resolution B.6 - Guam

Amendment to the fifth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6)

117. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee would adopt the amendment without a vote.

118. It was so decided.

Amendment to operative paragraph 3 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

119. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia.

120. The amendment was rejected by 58 votes to 39, with 30 abstentions.

Amendment to operative paragraph 4 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

121. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Canada, Cyprus, Egypt, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, Tunisia.

122. The amendment was rejected by 58 votes to 41, with 27 abstentions.

Draft resolution B.7 - Montserrat

Amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

123. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine.

124. The amendment was rejected by 53 votes to 44, with 29 abstentions.

Draft resolution B.11 - Turks and Caicos Islands

Amendment to operative paragraph 1 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

125. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia,

Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia.

126. The amendment was rejected by 53 votes to 44, with 30 abstentions.

Draft resolution B.12 - United States Virgin Islands

Amendment to the third preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6)

127. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Egypt, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia.

128. The amendment was adopted by 47 votes to 45, with 31 abstentions.

Amendment to the sixth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/50/L.6)

129. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the amendment without a vote.

130. It was so decided.

Amendment to operative paragraph 2 (A/C.4/50/L.6)

131. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Haiti, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia.

132. The amendment was rejected by 52 votes to 43, with 27 abstentions.

133. Mr. PACHECO (Brazil) said that his delegation had supported those amendments which updated the draft resolutions or effectively improved the quality of their language. It had voted against those not in conformity with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). He urged the administering Powers involved to make their amendments more timely in future so that through a comprehensive debate a consensus could be reached.

134. Mr. GAMITO (Portugal) said that his delegation had abstained on most of the amendments, although it well understood their thrust. It believed, however, that the Special Committee's role should not be limited or suppressed; its mandate would end only when there were no colonies left. Moreover, decisions regarding the future of the Territories should not be left in the hands of the local authorities, since in many cases those had no legitimacy. It was for those reasons that his delegation had been unable to vote for the amendments, worthy though they might be.

135. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to take action on the consolidated draft resolution (A/50/23 (Part VI), chap. X, para. 25) as a whole, as amended.

136. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Georgia, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Belgium, France, Haiti, Morocco, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

137. Draft resolution A/C.4/50/L.6, as amended, was adopted by 124 votes to 4, with 6 abstentions.

138. Mr. ARKWRIGHT (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had voted against the draft resolution because key amendments put forward by the United States and the United Kingdom had not been accepted, despite the fact that they had aimed at making the language of the draft resolution more appropriate for those most closely affected. It was for the elected representatives in Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Pitcairn and St. Helena to decide whether and at what time to consult their electorates on a change in their constitutional relationship with the United Kingdom. Indeed, the Governor of St. Helena had informed the island's Legislative Council that he would be happy to enter into debate on a constitutional review. Ways were being sought of bringing the matter forward.

REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS

139. Mr. LAMAMRA (Algeria) recalled that a petitioner on the question of Western Sahara, Mr. Frank Ruddy, had been denied a hearing in the Committee on the strength of an opinion by the Legal Counsel, based on erroneous, partial and biased grounds. The opinion given in the Committee by the Legal Counsel should not set a precedent, and if Mr. Ruddy renewed his request for a hearing at the next session, Algeria would support it. Moreover, since the Legal Counsel had not returned to answer Algeria's objections to his ruling, it reserved the right to seek an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice.

The meeting rose at 6.30 p.m.